

CLAIMS

1. A method of assisting in identifying an article (11a, 11b, 11c), said method comprising the steps of:

5 presenting to a wearable tag reader (10) a tag (12a, 12b) associated with an article;

communicating information held in said tag to the tag reader; and

generating an output signal that is dependent on the information communicated from the tag to the tag reader, wherein said output signal

10 facilities identification of the article with which the tag is associated by virtue of said association being user definable and established prior to said step of communicating.

2. A method in accordance with claim 1 wherein said wearable tag
15 reader (10) is wearable on a persons finger, hand, forearm, foot or other extremity of the body.

3. A method in accordance with claim 1 or 2 and further comprising the step of a user programming said tag (12a, 12b) prior to said step of
20 communicating.

4. A method in accordance with claim 1, 2, or 3 wherein said information held in the tag (12a, 12b) includes tag identity information.

25 5. A method in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 4 wherein said information held in the tag (12a, 12b) includes data which describes a property of the article (11a, 11b) with which the tag is associated.

30 6. A method in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 5 wherein said generated output signal is in the form of a tactile signal, audible signal, speech or other user decipherable information.

7. A method in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 6 wherein said tag (12a, 12b) is a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag.

8. A method in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 7
5 and further comprising the step of a user providing said tag.

9. An article provided with a tag, said tag being suitable for use in a method of assisting in identifying an article in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 8.

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10. A process comprising the step of affixing a tag to an article, said tag being suitable for use in a method of assisting in identifying an article in accordance with any one or more of claims 1 to 7.

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11. Apparatus (10) for assisting in identifying an article, said apparatus comprising:

a wearable tag reader for reading information held in a tag (12a, 12b) associated with an article, the reading being performed when the wearable tag reader is presented to the tag, and

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an output signal generating means coupled to said tag reader for generating an output signal dependent on the information communicated during reading from a tag presented to the reader, wherein said output signal facilitates identification of the article with which the tag is associated by virtue of said association being user definable and established prior to the tag
25 reading.